



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

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STATE SUPERINTENDENT

August 4, 2014

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Melody Arabo, 2014-2015 Michigan Teacher of the Year

SUBJECT: Teacher of the Year Report

- Spent time building a website, [www.melodyarabo.com](http://www.melodyarabo.com), which includes a blog, a list of events, and links to my Twitter account, Facebook account, Instagram account, and YouTube channel, all focusing on my upcoming experiences as Michigan Teacher of the Year.
- Visited Grosse Pointe North High School and was interviewed by WDIV Channel 4 News, along with Gary Abud and a few other teachers, to help parents prepare for their children to go back to school. The footage will be edited into several segments and shown throughout August and early September.
- Interviewed by 96.3 WDVD morning radio show hosts Blaine and Allyson.
- Interviewed by Cynthia Canty for the *NPR Stateside* radio show.
- Interviewed by Greg Bowman for the CBS/WWJ *Making the Grade* radio segment.
- Interviewed by the West Bloomfield Township Public Library for its newsletter and photographed for one of the "READ" posters that will be displayed at the library branches.
- Featured in the June edition of the *Chaldean News*.
- Featured in the July edition of *WestEnd Magazine*.
- Featured in the July edition of *Metro Parent Magazine*.
- Currently publishing a children's picture book called *Diary of a Real Bully*, which tells the story of a sweet and smart young girl who comes to realize she acts like a bully, even though she looks and acts nothing like the bullies she has seen on television and in movies. This book is designed to break the bully stereotype and help identify the bully in all of us.

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